

# THE ALMA RECORD.

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ALMA, MICHIGAN, THURSDAY, AFTERNOON, DECEMBER 21, 1916

WHOLE NUMBER 1970



## MERRY CHRISTMAS

### WILL VOTE ON A WATERWORKS

Special Election Next Week Wednesday on Plant Owned by City.

### TWO QUESTIONS FOR VOTERS

Bonding for \$60,000 for the Purpose of Constructing Plant Is the Other.

If not registered, don't fail to do it Saturday and then on Wednesday, December 27th, get out and vote on the two propositions that are coming before the electors of the city of Alma in regard to a waterworks.

The city council by almost a unanimous vote recently passed a resolution to submit to the voters of the city the proposition of voting to acquire a waterworks by construction, together with another proposition of bonding for \$60,000 with which to construct a waterworks.

A special election in the dead of winter and about the time of the holidays is liable to be overlooked, but all voters of the city should bear the fact in mind that this election is important to the city, as it means much for the future of Alma. Is Alma to become a city owning its waterworks, is the sum and substance of the questions which are being submitted, and it's success at the hands of the voters will probably have much to do with the bringing up of similar questions at future times.

The question does not need a thorough going over, as it is well known to all Alma residents, having been up a short time ago, when it passed by a big vote. At that time it was found that an error had come in, which made the election illegal, and necessitating a new election.

Every citizen should be out and vote on the question, which means a distinct step in advance of anything that Alma has undertaken in the past. The city officials are satisfied, seemingly that the city of Alma can operate a waterworks at less cost to the city than can a private plant. The city officials have had estimates before them and have gone over them with care, and are now asking for the approval of the voters.

### TREATED RIGHT

Teachers Were Given All Possible Aid Here.

The five Alma school teachers, who lost their effects in the fire of Tuesday morning, have been given splendid aid by the various organizations in the city.

While the loss that the teachers have sustained is a big one to them, and one in some cases that cannot be replaced, much is possible of replacement, and Alma spirit coupled with the spirit of Christmas time has gone forth to these five young ladies in no uncertain terms.

Soon after the fire of Tuesday, the school board got together and gave the teachers the balance of the week off, and gave them their month's salary, and then proceeded to vote them \$25.00 each, as an aid in replacing their wardrobe. Tuesday evening the other teachers of the various grades and the high school got together and made a generous contribution to the cause of the sister teachers.

Various other organizations, particularly of the churches, joined in the work for the young ladies, and also aided them greatly.

It is fitting and proper that aid should be given in such cases, and particularly the school board is to be given credit for voting the teachers an extra \$25.00 each. It means nothing to any one tax payer, yet at such a time it means more than one could properly express, to those who have lost all their belongings, suddenly and without warning.

### NEW SOLICITOR

Alma College Secures New Man For Campaign.

President Harry Means Crooks of Alma college has secured the services of A. B. Sheldon, who will act as a solicitor during the endowment campaign of the college which is now under way.

Mr. Sheldon has been connected with a two colleges in Dakota, which have been running endowment campaigns and is familiar with the work that he will take up with Alma college. He will take the position with Alma college immediately after the opening of the year.

### IT'S DR. CROOKS NOW.

Since last Monday it has been most proper to say Dr. Crooks, president of Alma college, as the above mentioned gentleman received the degree of LL. D. from the College of Wooster, Wooster, Ohio, on that day. Dr. Crooks is a graduate of Wooster, and last Monday was there to attend the fiftieth anniversary of the granting of the charter to the college.

### POSTOFFICE SITE ITEM NOW \$10,000

Fordney Gets Item Increased in Appropriation Bill.

A personal letter received from Congressman Joseph Fordney by the editor of the Alma Record assures us that everything possible is being done in regard to a post office site and new building for this city.

During the campaign Congressman Fordney assured the editor that he would do all in his power to get things through for Alma, and that he is doing so is evidenced in the following letter in which he says that he has secured an increase in the item for the purchase of a site from \$5,000 to \$10,000. The letter follows:

December 16, 1916.  
Mr. C. F. Brown,  
Alma, Michigan.

Dear Mr. Brown: Early this week I succeeded in getting the committee on post offices and post roads to change the amount of the appropriation they had written in the Public Buildings bill, which is likely to come up in the house next week, and increase the item for the purchase of a public building site at Alma from \$5,000 to \$10,000. I hope this bill may become a law, but it will be opposed strenuously by some men in Congress.

With personal regards, I beg to remain,  
Sincerely yours,  
JOSEPH FORDNEY.

### NOTHING TO IT

Republic Officials Will Not Start Co-operative Store.

Rumors that the Republic officials were figuring on a co-operative store are groundless. It is believed, after a talk with one of the prominent Republic officials on Tuesday of this week.

Asked if there was anything to the rumor of a co-operative store the official of the company said that some of the men had been discussing the proposition, and when asked if the company expected to do anything in that regard, he said that the company would not enter into the co-operative store proposition.

He also gave it out that the men might start such a store, and were talking of it. Such a store, without the backing of the company, is not very liable to come through to a realization.

### "BOB" GETS PRESENT

Following the custom established years ago, the Alma college students made "Bob" Fredricks a Christmas present again this year, receiving from them a fine heavy sweater coat. Departing from the usual custom slightly the young men of the college carried "Bob" into chapel Wednesday morning, where the presentation was made, and then he was called upon for a speech.

### Record Want Ads for Results

## POULTRY SHOW NEXT THURSDAY

Expect The Largest List of Entries in History of Association.

### WILL GIVE SPECIAL PREMIUMS

Exhibition Starts Thursday and Continues Through January First, 1917.

The third annual show of the Central Michigan Poultry Association will be held in the Ford Garage on East Superior street, next week, starting on Thursday and continuing through until January 1, 1917.

With more and better prizes than have been offered at the past two shows of the association, it is expected that the list of entries at this year's show will see a decided increase in number, as well as in the grade of the poultry that will be entered. Pet stock will also be displayed again this season in connection with the poultry displays, for which prizes are also to be awarded. A small charge of ten cents will be made at the door, except to owners who have over \$1.50 exhibition fees, who receive season tickets.

All entries for the show must be entered not later than Wednesday of next week, December 27th, and all entries must be in the show-room by noon on Thursday, December 28th. The following special premiums will be offered as extra inducements to the exhibitors:

One \$10.00 silver loving cup for the best display in the American class; one \$10.00 silver loving cup for the best display in the Asiatic class; one \$10.00 silver loving cup for the best display in the Mediterranean class; one \$10.00 silver loving cup for the best display in the English class; one \$5.00 loving cup for the best display of bantams.

Gold sweepstakes will be offered as follows: \$5.00 in gold for the best cockerel in the American class; \$5.00 in gold for the best cockerel in the Asiatic class; \$5.00 in gold for the best display in the Mediterranean class; and \$5.00 in gold for the best display in the English class.

Special prizes will also be offered by Swift & Company. One prize will be \$10.00 in gold for the best crate of poultry marketed and a second prize of \$5.00 for the second best crate.

The premiums offered as follows: All first prize birds will receive 25 per cent of the entry fees of their class, all second prize birds will receive 15 per cent of the entry fees of the class, and in addition the first four in each entry class will receive ribbons.

Prizes for pet stock will be based upon the entry fees of the various classes.

### LOST DIAMOND FOUND

On Monday evening, Roy Genesta lost a three and a half carat diamond, and thought that he had lost it on the street somewhere, and started inquiring for such a stone. Tuesday, friend wife, found the stone lying in the house, where it had worked loose from Mr. Genesta's stickpin.

## FIRE IN EARLY MORNING SERIOUS

Home of Mrs. J. H. Fleming Almost Destroyed by Flames Tuesday.

### SEVERAL PEOPLE IN HOUSE

Forced to Flee Before the Flames and Into Zero Weather in Scant Attire.

The home of Mrs. J. H. Fleming on Woodworth avenue was practically destroyed by fire at an early hour on Tuesday morning of this week, and the occupants of the house, among whom were several teachers in the local schools, were forced to flee from the burning structure, attired only in their nightgowns.

It seems that the fire was discovered about four o'clock Tuesday morning and an alarm was sent in for the fire department. When the department reached the scene the fire was creeping through the various portions between the walls of the house.

Then it was discovered that the chemical tank on the truck was frozen up, and when the department went to connect at the hydrant at the corner of Hastings and Woodworth, it was found that the cold weather had frozen up the hydrant and no water could be obtained there. Lines were finally laid from the corner of Downey and Woodworth and Woodworth and Superior streets, but in the meantime the fire had acquired a fine start and was blazing merrily. Much excitement was being heard because of the fact that the chemical tank and the hydrants were frozen up and not ready for use when wanted. The comment leads one to believe that it would be well to have someone whose duty it would be to see that these things are at all times ready and waiting.

So rapidly did the fire gain headway, once it was discovered, that it was impossible to get many of the articles of furniture from the burning home. A couple of chairs and a few other articles made up the entire list of articles saved. Fire, water and smoke ruined the rest.

When the teachers were awakened by the fire, a speedy exit was called for and the ladies did not even take the time to grab up a few pieces of clothing and a result lost all of their clothing, money and jewelry. They were immediately taken to the homes of neighbors, where their immediate wants were supplied, but none of them was in condition to teach, following the excitement of the early morn. The teachers rooming at the Fleming home were the Misses Ade Snyder, Belle Martin, Edith Cockerton, Kittie Handy and Edna Brown.

The loss on the house and household goods will without doubt be over three thousand dollars, and while the property is insured, the insurance it is said, is far too small to cover the actual loss that Mrs. Fleming has sustained.

### RECORD READER 35 YEARS

Mrs. M. Kauffenburg of this city is one of the Alma Record's prize winners, when it comes to long years of Record reading. She has taken the Alma Record for thirty-five years continuously, and has just paid in advance for her thirty-sixth year.

### ORATORICAL CONTESTS

The men's oratorical contest at Alma college will be held January 5th, and the girls' contest on the following Wednesday, January 10th. There will be seven contestants in the men's contest and seven in the girls' contest this year. In the men's contest three orators are picked from each of the colleges and one represents no society.

### Y. M. C. A. LAOS

### TELL OF GOOD CROPS

Young Men of This Organization Raised Good Crops.

In spite of the unfavorable season some of our Agricultural Club boys are sending in good reports. Sixty-two boys took part and finished their work. The prospects are good for a much larger number taking part next spring.

While most of them did not raise large crops they are showing their interest and pluck by deciding to try it again.

The following are the reports of some of their work:

Glen Talker, age 15, of Wheeler raised an acre of cucumbers and sends in the following report:

Cost of Production.  
Rent of land, \$4.00  
Preparation of seed bed, 8.00  
Cost of seed, .50  
Cost of planting, 2.00  
Cost of hauling manure, .50  
Cost of cultivation, 6.00  
Cost of gathering and marketing, 18.89  
Cost of spray mixture, .75  
Cost of hauling or draying, 3.25

Total cost, \$45.89

### Receipts.

Cash receipts from fresh products sold, \$106.54  
Value of products used in home, 1.00

Total value of all products, \$106.54  
Total cost of production, 45.89

Net profit on project, \$60.65

The following is Glen Talker's write-up:

Raising My Cucumbers.  
On account of a wet spring, my cucumbers were not planted until late. It being June 18 when land was plowed. But I had it dragged four times and disked six times and then floated. It was then ready for planting. I thought a little manure would not do any harm, so I engaged a friend of mine who had a horse and we cleaned out my father's and my neighbor's chicken coops. I received two loads of chicken droppings, which I considered very good fertilizer.

I then marked off the ground six feet by eight feet apart, then I put a small five shovel full of manure in each hill and mixed it with the ground and then planted the seeds on top of this.

They grew very nicely, and on August 5th I got a few cucumbers. After that I picked one-half of the patch every day, Sunday excluded. My largest picking being 18.12 bushels, which I consider very fair for one day's work.

All together I received \$106.54 from the entire acre. My expenses were \$45.89, including my time at 10 cents an hour. It left me \$60.65 net profit.

My only trouble was with the striped beetle which I easily killed by sprinkling lime on the plants early in the season.  
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## NEW INDUSTRY WILL COME HERE

Board of Trade at Tuesday Meeting Made a Good Proposition.

### TWO BUILDINGS ARE NEEDED

Product of Company Meets Favor Here and Many Clamor For Stock.

Alma is to get the carburetor factory. This fact was definitely settled today.

C. W. Reemtsma, who has been here for a couple of weeks, called Mr. Frevert, who is one of the largest stockholders of the company, to Alma last Saturday, and after interviewing the local people, a board of trade meeting was arranged for Tuesday evening, which provided the opportunity for these gentlemen to submit their proposition to the citizens of Alma. After careful consideration of the merits of the kerosene carburetor and the possible profits and future enlargement of the business, the board of trade, in their usual effective way of handling industrial propositions and believing that the people of Alma are desirous of obtaining for Alma such industries, which are sure to add to the progress of the city and enhance values generally, decided to lend their active cooperation and definite support which is assuring the bringing of the factory to Alma. The board of trade committee are making their investigation and if as represented will tie the matter up at once.

The first unit of the factory to be erected immediately will consist of modern saw tooth roof construction of steel and brick, 125 by 50 feet, similar to plant No. 2 of the Republic Motor Truck Company, Inc. A suitable foundry will also be built to meet the needs of the company. It is the desire of all parties interested to have the factory in full operation by April first or sooner if possible.

The reputation of the western kerosene carburetor is so well established that to meet the demand all ready existing, a force of one hundred or more men will be required.

The kerosene carburetor looks good to Alma investors, who have already over subscribed the organization's stocks.

Mr. Reemtsma advises, that he has arranged for an issue of ten thousand common and twenty thousand preferred, which will be placed with the first applicants at a ratio of one share of common to two of preferred.

The contemplated corporation will be organized under the Michigan law and the par value of all stock is ten dollars and is being sold at par. Parties interested in this enterprise can get further information by calling on Mr. Reemtsma at the Wright House, room 7.

### RENDERED "THE MESSIAH"

Musical Feature Attracted a Big Crowd Last Thursday.

The annual musical number given by the Alma college chorus was given at the Presbyterian church last week Thursday evening, and in spite of the fact that the chorus, "The Messiah," has been given here twice before by the college chorus, a good audience turned out to hear the annual event. The rendition of the famous oratorio given this year was perhaps the best ever given by the club, due perhaps to the experience of some of the members to some extent, but to a far greater extent to the good training that the chorus has received from Professor Venth.

The soloists who took part in the rendition of the oratorio aided much in making it the success that it was. Among the soloists were Miss Helen Clark Moore, soprano, of Mt. Pleasant; Miss Nora Crane Hunt, contralto, of Anna Arbor; and Mr. Westman, tenor, and Mr. Sykes, baritone.

Especially commendable was the work of the accompanists, Miss Roberts at the organ, Miss Sadie Messinger at the piano, and Messrs. Bistline and Buckborough with the violin.

### GETS NEW HEARSE.

The G. V. Wright furniture store and undertaking establishment has received its new hearse, which has been constructed especially for this firm. The body was built in Grand Rapids and placed on one of the famous Republic truck chassis. The entire truck is finished in a gray color and is very neat in appearance.

